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the documents annexed hereto are true copies of:

Application forms P.1 and P.2, provisional specification and drawings of
✓
South African Patent Application No. 2003/3025 as originally filed in the
✓
Republic of South Africa on 17 April 2003 in the name of JACOBUS ADRIAAN
WESSELS for an invention entitled: "CLOSURE ARRANGEMENT".

Getekken te
Signed at

PRETORIA

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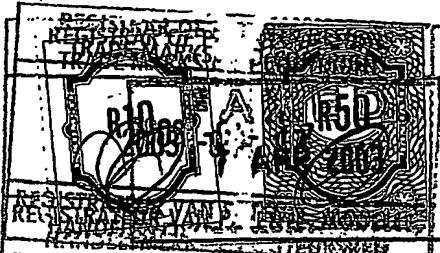
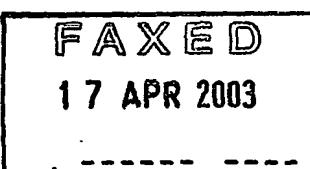
Official Application No.:		Lodging date: Provisional		Acceptance date:	
21	2003/3025	22	2003-04-17	47	
International Classification:		Lodging date: Complete		Grant date:	
51		22			
Full name(s) of applicant(s)/Patentee(s):					
71	Jacobus Adriaan WESSELS				
Applicants substituted			Date registered		
71					
Assignee(s):			Date registered		
71					
Full name(s) of inventor(s):					
72	WESSELS, Jacobus Adriaan				
Priority claimed		33	Country	31	Number
				32	Date
Title of invention					
54	CLOSURE ARRANGEMENT				
Address of applicant(s)/patentee(s):					
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Address for service		Dr GERNTHOLTZ INC (DrG Ref: 617514)			
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Patent of addition No.		74	Date of any change		
Fresh application based on			Date of any change		

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA
PATENTS ACT, 1978

PATENT APPLICATION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

[Section 30(1) - Regulation 22]

The grant of a patent is hereby requested by the undermentioned applicant on the basis of the present application filed in duplicate.

21	01	Official Application No.	2003/3025	DrG Ref.:	617514
71 Full name(s) and address(es) of applicant(s):					
Jacobus Adriaan WESSELS 32 Camdebo Street Loevenstein 7530					
					

54 Title of invention:	CLOSURE ARRANGEMENT		
The applicant claims priority as set out on the accompanying form P2. The earliest priority claimed is:			
This application is for a patent of addition to Patent Application No.		21	01
This application is a fresh application (section 37) based on Application No.		21	01

THIS APPLICATION IS ACCCOMPANIED BY THE FOLLOWING:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1. P6 Provisional specification	Pages: 8
<input type="checkbox"/> P7 Complete specification	Pages: 2 copies
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2. Drawings	Sheets: 2
<input type="checkbox"/> 3. P8 Publication particulars and abstract in duplicate.	
<input type="checkbox"/> 4. Drawing for abstract	
<input type="checkbox"/> 5. An assignment of invention	
<input type="checkbox"/> 6. Certified priority document(s)	
<input type="checkbox"/> 7. Copy of Form P2 and SA Patent Application No	21 01
<input type="checkbox"/> 8. Translation of the priority document(s)	
<input type="checkbox"/> 9. An assignment of priority rights	
<input type="checkbox"/> 10. P3 Declaration and power of attorney on form P3	
<input type="checkbox"/> 11. P4 Request for ante-dating on form P4	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12. P2 Register sheet (in duplicate)	

Date: 17 April 2003


John Spicer
Patent Attorney

DR GERNTHOLTZ INC
PATENT ATTORNEYS OF APPLICANT(S)

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FORM P6

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA
PATENTS ACT, 1978
PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION

[Section 30(1) - Regulation 27]

21	01	Official Application No.	2003/3025	DrG Ref: 617514
22	Lodging date:			2003-04-17
71	Full name(s) of applicant(s): Jacobus Adriaan WESSELS			
72	Full name(s) of inventor(s) WESSELS, Jacobus Adriaan			
54	Title of invention CLOSURE ARRANGEMENT			

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42003/3025

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TITLE OF INVENTION

Closure arrangement.

FIELD OF INVENTION

The present invention relates to a closure arrangement.

5 More particularly, the invention relates to a closure arrangement and valve unit for dispensing flowable materials.

BACKGROUND TO INVENTION

It is often desirable to obtain a fixed volume of substance out of a container, such as a tube or bottle. This is especially the case in medical applications such 10 as medicines or salves. When working with liquids, a fixed volume can be relatively easily measured off in a syringe or a measuring cup. As an aid in dispensing fixed volumes and in order to reduce the likelihood of spillage, a number of measuring caps have been developed for attachment on containers.

Many caps or measuring caps have an inherent defect in that the cap can be 15 relatively easily removed from a container, which allows indeterminate amounts of a substance to be withdrawn from the container. A child could thus innocently consume dangerous or toxic amounts of a medicine contained inside the container.

It is an object of the invention to suggest a closure arrangement, which will 20 assist in overcoming the abovementioned problems.

SUMMARY OF INVENTION

According to the invention, a closure arrangement includes a cap; and attachment means adapted to irremovably attach the cap in communication

The cap may be joined to the container by a thread being adapted to prevent the cap from being removed from the container.

Also according to the invention, a closure arrangement includes a locating member being adapted to be in communication with an outlet opening of a 5 container; and a cap unidirectionally rotatably joined to the locating member.

The locating member may have an internal screw thread for attaching the closure arrangement to a container, such as a tube containing paste.

The screw thread may be adapted to fit a number of different containers allowing the locating member to act as a universal adaptor so that the cap is 10 joinable to a number of different containers.

The cap may be adapted to be rotatable around the locating member in a counter clockwise direction when seen from above, to prevent unscrewing of the cap from a container.

The cap may be adapted to be non-rotatable around the locating member in a 15 clockwise direction when seen from above, to allow screwing the cap onto a container.

The closure member may include engagement means associated with the locating member and the cap, the engagement means being adapted to allow unidirectional rotation of the cap relative to the locating member.

20 The engagement means may be a ratchet mechanism having ratchet wheel protrusions extending from the cap for engagement with at least one pawl extending from the locating member.

The engagement means may be a ratchet mechanism having ratchet wheel protrusions extending from the locating member for engagement with at least

The locating member may be fully enclosed by the cap.

The cap may be a dispensing body or valve unit.

The cap may be provided with an outlet being adapted to dispense discrete volumes of a substance contained in the container.

5 The cap may include:

- a) a dispenser body having a dispenser inlet and a dispenser outlet;
- b) a metering chamber, having a predetermined volume and two chamber openings, being movably located inside the dispenser body in a manner allowing at least one of the chamber openings to be moved between a first position where it is in alignment with the dispenser inlet and a second position where it is alignment with the dispenser outlet; and
- c) a control member movably located inside the metering chamber between the chamber openings and being adapted to selectively close off the dispenser outlet.

15 The cap may include:

- a) a body;
- b) a movable member movably associated with the body;
- c) a first passage extending through the body;
- d) a second passage extending through the movable member, the movable member being adapted to align the second passage with the first passage; and
- e) a control member movably located inside the second passage, the control member being adapted to regulate the filling of and the exhausting of a flowable substance from the second passage through the first passage.

The invention also extends to a container provided with a closure arrangement

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

The invention will now be described by way of example with reference to the accompanying schematic drawings.

In the drawings there is shown in:

- 5 Figure 1 a perspective view of a valve unit in accordance with the invention;
- Figure 2 an exploded perspective view of the valve unit shown in Figure 1;
- Figure 3 a sectional side view of the valve unit seen along arrows III-III in Figure 1; and
- 10 Figure 4 a sectional side view of the valve unit seen along arrows IV-IV in Figure 3.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

Referring to the drawings, a closure arrangement in accordance with the invention, generally indicated by reference numeral 20, is shown. The closure 15 arrangement 20 includes a cap or dispensing body 22, which is rotatably joined to a locating member 24 for attachment to a container (not shown) such as a tube of paste.

The dispensing body 22 includes a spigot 26 movably joined to the body 22, and a control member 28 movably associated with the spigot 26. The body 22 20 defines a centrally located cylindrical bore 30, across which a first passage 32 extends traversing the bore 30 along its diameter. The first passage has an inlet 34 and an outlet 36.

The spigot 26 is cylindrical in shape having an external diameter which is

rotatably located within the bore 30. A second passage 38, which has a diameter slightly larger than the diameter of the first passage 32, extends through the spigot 26, the second passage 38 having openings on opposite sides of a diameter of the spigot 26. Thus, when the spigot 26 is located in the 5 bore 30, the second passage 38 can be aligned with the first passage 32 by suitably rotating the spigot 26. The body 22 and the spigot 26 can have a ratchet interaction for assisting in aligning the first passage 32 and second passages 38 during use.

10 A protruding gripping member 40 extends from the spigot 26 to enable easy rotation of the spigot 26 inside the bore 30.

The control member 28 is a spherical ball having a diameter substantially similar to a diameter of the second passage 38 and larger than a diameter of the first passage 32.

15 The locating member 24 is rotatably joined to the dispensing body 22 by an intermittently broken, annular ridge 42 extending outwardly from the locating member 24, which ridge 42 is receivable in a groove 44 provided in the dispensing body 22. A unidirectional ratchet mechanism, formed by ratchet wheel protrusions 46 extending from the dispensing body 22 and engaging with pawls 48 extending from the locating member 24, allows the dispensing 20 body 22 to rotate around the locating member in one direction only, as indicated by arrow 50 in Figures 1 and 4.

25 The locating member 24 has an internal screw thread 52 for attaching the closure arrangement 20 to a container, such as a tube of paste. The screw thread 52 can be adapted to fit a variety of container threads so that the locating member 24 acts as an adaptor allowing the dispensing body 22 to be joinable to a variety of different containers.

In use, the closure arrangement 20 is screwed onto a container by turning the closure arrangement 20 in a normal clockwise direction indicated by arrow 54 so that the thread 52 of the locating member 24 screws onto a thread of the container. The pawls 48 engage with the ratchet wheel protrusions 48 to prevent rotation of the dispensing body 22 relative to the locating member 24 and thus allowing tightening of the closure arrangement 20 onto the container.

Once properly tightened, the friction resistance between the thread 52 and the thread of the container ensures that the locating member 24 is securely joined to the container. Furthermore, as the locating member 24 is fully enclosed by the dispensing body 22, the locating member 24 cannot be gripped for removal purposes. Any counter clockwise turning of the dispensing body 22 merely results in the dispensing body 22 rotating around the locating member 24 as the pawls 48 do not engage with but deflect over the ratchet wheel protrusions 48. Thus, once attached, the closure arrangement 20 cannot be removed from the container without partial or complete destruction of the dispensing body 22.

The contents of the container can be expressed in discrete volumes through the closure arrangement 20. The spigot 26 is rotated so that the first and second passages 32,38 are in alignment and with the ball or control member 28 lying closest to the inlet 34. By pressing the container, a first volume of paste is expressed through the inlet 34 into the second passage 38 and simultaneously forcing the ball 28 towards the outlet. Once the ball 28 reaches the outlet 36 and abuts against the dispensing body 22, the second passage 38 is filled with the paste, and no further paste can be expressed from the container.

The spigot 26 is then rotated through one hundred and eighty degrees (180°) relative to the dispensing body 22 until the first and second passages 30,42 are again aligned. The ball 28 thus abuts against the dispensing body 22 near to the inlet 32 of the first passage 32.

Finally, the first volume of paste is exhausted from the dispensing body 22 by expressing a further volume of paste into the second passage 38. As the second volume of paste enters the second passage 38, it moves the ball 28 until it again abuts against the dispensing body 22 near the outlet 36.

5 Simultaneously, the ball 28 acts to exhaust the first volume of paste from the second passage 38.

Additional volumes of paste can be obtained by repeating the above steps as often as required.

The closure arrangement 20 thus provides additional safety for children. As 10 only discrete volumes of paste can be expressed at a time and as a certain amount of dexterity is required to rotate the spigot 26, it is unlikely that a child could obtain sufficient quantities of paste for it to be harmful or toxic. A child will normally also have insufficient strength to destroy the dispensing body 22 for removal of the closure arrangement 20 from the container.

15 Date: 17 April 2003



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22003/3025

JACOBUS ADRIAAN WESSELS

NO OF SHEETS 2
SHEET NO 1
DRG Ref.: 617514

FIG. 1

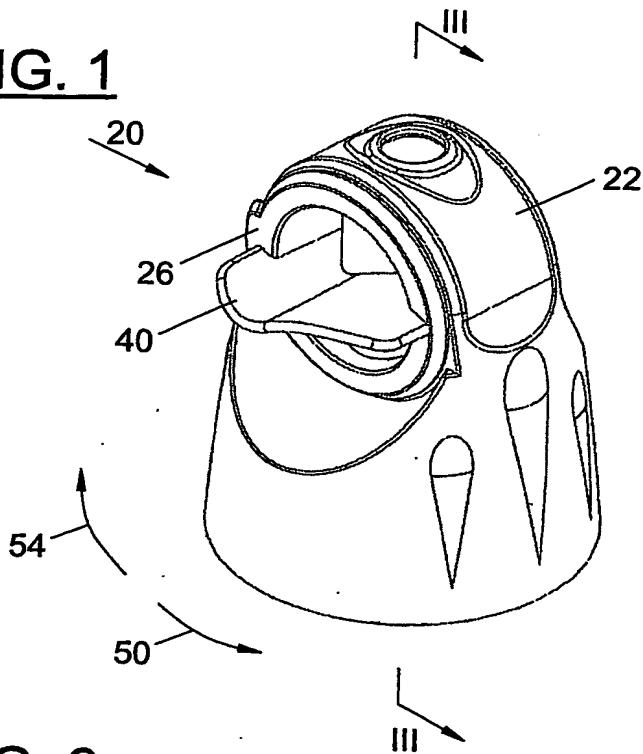
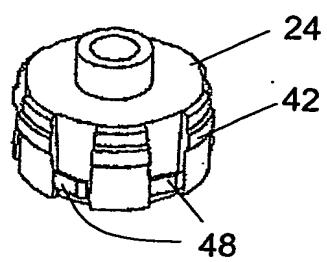
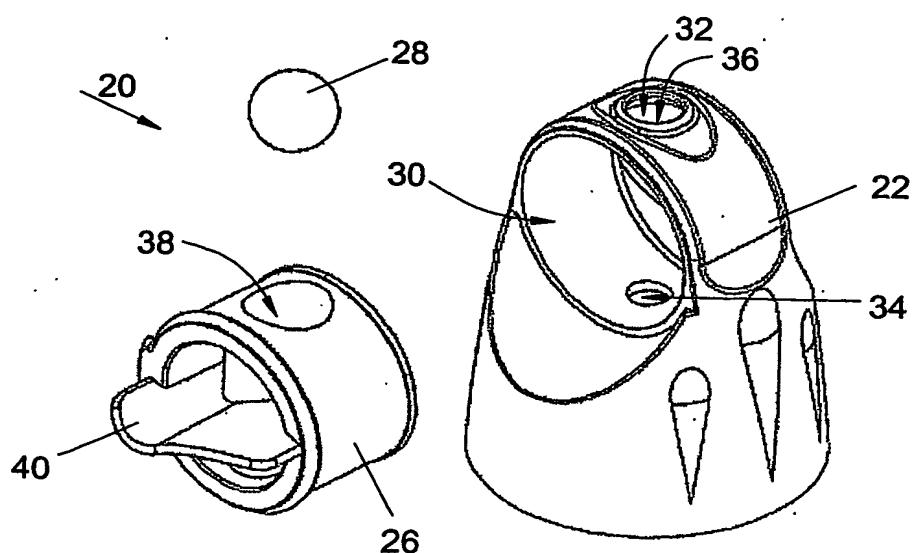


FIG. 2



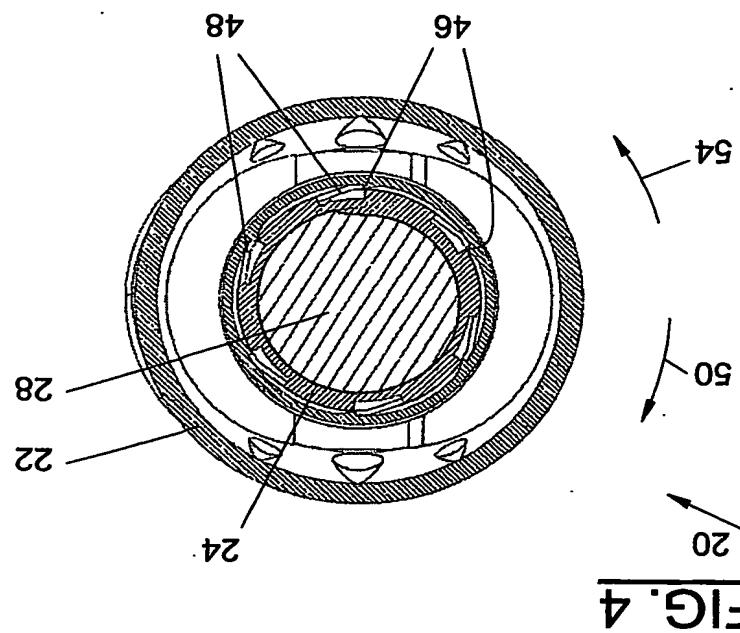


FIG. 4

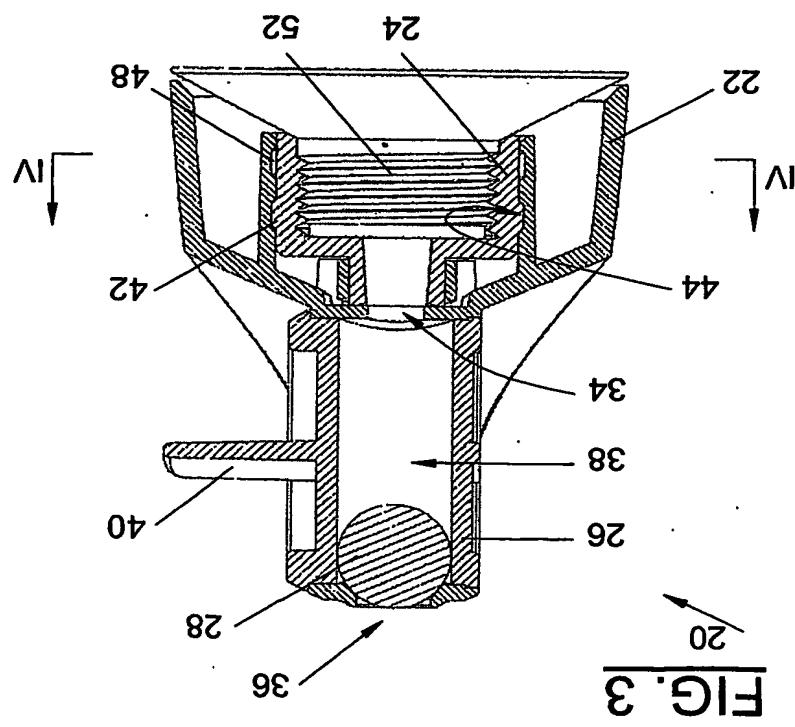


FIG. 3

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